I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. EV 756263165 US, on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: MS PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: September 26, 2006 Signature:

Docket No.: 64312(46590)

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Norihiro Kobayashi et al.

Application No.: 10/553,305 Confirmation No.: 2154

Filed: October 14, 2005 Art Unit: 1645

(Mary M. Hutchinson)

For: PROTEIN CAPABLE OF BINDING Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

PLASTICIZER

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.